# THE INDIANS.

Sixth Annual Report of the Beard of Indian Commissioners.

WISDOM OF THE POLICY SET FORTH

Proposals for an Indian Territorial Government.

Influence of the Christian Ministry.

The Board of Indian Commissioners have sub ritted to the Secretary of the Interior their sixth annual report. The following extracts from this report give the more significant portion of its conents:-The Commissioners state that the history been marked by more than usual trials and dimpulties in its conduct, and by more than usual access in the progress which has been made by the various tribes of Indians toward a higher civilization and the ultimate completion of the peaceful policy inaugurated.

GENERAL POLICY. A period in the conduct and history of the Infian service of the country has been reached. when, in the judgment of the Board, the government may safely look forward to the final determimation of its relations with the Indian tribes as a separate people. Experience has demonstrated the wisdom of the policy, steadily pursued since the commencement of the present administration. tions limited in extent. The rapid settlement of the territory occupied by them as buntleg grounds rendered the adoption of such a policy necessary both for the protection of white settlers against epredations and to bring the Indians under the influence and control of the agents for the purmg influence of the class of white persons always ered a condition requisite to the early improvement of the savage tribes until a certain period of advancement shall have been reached; the history of the world, however, demonstrates the fact that of civilization without recognition of the right of individual property, and it is believed that whenever any tribe of Indians has reached such a stage of advancement in intelligence and good conduct will enable the various members to transact their own business and participate in the affairs of the community with which they are surrounded, the policy of the government should be to encourage such persons to renounce their tribal relations and to establish individual homes for themselves and become invested with all the continue from year to year, stimulated by every inducement the government can properly offer, antil the entire Indian race shall become merged in the community at large and further intervenecome unnecessary.

The report hereto appended of a visit to the In-

dian reservations in the State of New York justs dan reservations in the State of New York justifles the recommendation that measures should at
once be taken for the entrancitisement of
the Indians located upon reservations in
that State. The permanent annuities provided by
treaty stipulation would afford ample means for
the endowment of such educational and benevolent institutions as, upon consultation with
these tribes, should seem desfrable. The dissojution of their tribal relations and the division in
severalty of lands and other property held in common would become necessary in the execution of
spich a plan, and, with the exercise of reasonable
wisdom in the negotiation, could be satisfactorily
accomplished.

severalty of lands and other property held in common would become necessary in the execution of such a plan, and, with the exercise of reasonable wisdom in the negotiation, could be satisfactorily accomplished.

A large proportion of the Indians west of the Cascace and Sierra Nevada mountains, on the Pacific coast, are now quietly engaged in various branches of industry of the reservations, and, in sections of country of considerable extent, are more depended on as laborers by farmers, lumbermen, wool growers and others than any other class of persons.

No apprehension of further hostility by any Indians in this section of the country exists, and it is seleved that at an early period, witbout injustice to the Indians, and with eatire salety to the white communities by which they are surrounded, the government may cease to make further provision for their support. The same facts are true to a greater or less extent in respect to the indians under the care of the government in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Nevada.

WILL THE INDIAN WORK?

A provision in the legislation of Congress at its last session requires that in distributing supplies to the indians, for whom the same are appropriated, the agent shall require all adje-bodied male indians to perform service upon the reservation, giving, however, to the Secretary of the Interior the discretionary power to except irom such requirement any particular tribe when in his judgment as to what extent it has been practicable to comply with this requirement of law, and in the same connection to obtain an expression of opinion from those best qualified to form an intelligent judgment as to what extent it has been practicable to solve the difficult question. Inquiries on this subject were therefore directed to all the agents, and to others to the Indian country whose experience would render their opinions of value.

Responses from a large number of persons have been received, containing much valuable information. It appears that probably not less than 5,000 lindians, o

in the country they occupy cannot be cultivated to any profitable extent except with irrigation. The requirements of labor on the part of these tribes, without the provision of lacilities other than are now furnished, will continue, necessarily, barren of results. The government is therefore remitted to the alternative of continuing to feed and clothe these people until, from disease and energation, they shall become extinct, or of providing for them the means of remunerative labor.

The inter may be secured in their present locations by authorizing irrigating works on a large scale, which may be constructed by Indian labor as a remuneration for subsistence furnished; or the indians may be required to engage in the raising and care of cattle and sheep, for which their country is well adapted, and for which their previous habits present a less insurmountable obtacle; or by the two plans combined. In any event, a vigorous enforcement of whatever policy may be determined on, with an increased present expenditure by the government to provide the poessary means, will be requisite to any successful experiment.

The necessity for prompt and energetic action

expenditure by the government to provide the necessary means, will be requisite to any successful experiment.

The necessity for prompt and energetic action to accombish the object sought is so pressing that any reasonable expenditure and any proper measures for enforcing habits of industry on the part of the wind indians, promising success, are usualized in the solution of this purpose will refleve the difficulty of greatest magnitude remaining in the solution of the lonian problem.

Consultation with very many who have had large experience in the management of indians leads to the belief that any police in this regard determined ou by the government may be enforced without the necessity of resort to minitary interference.

Co-operation of Religious bodies with the government in the civilization of the Indians has proved an element, the importance of which even the missionary boards have not fully appreciated. The pagan larian resists with all the energy and stuboornness of his saviage nature every effort to educate, clothe or in any manner conform him to the mabits and enstoms of civilized life; and which, they by step, he yields to force and the penalty of threatened starvation, his progress is slow and missatisfactory. On the other hand, his conversion to Christianity orings him at once to understand that he must lead a new difference of comparative civilization is easy and rapid. A careful investigation does not disclose a langle exception to the rule that where rapid progress has been made, the work of the natisful, reli-sacrificing, energetic missionary has constituted the most important element of success. The Caristian missionary and the earnest practical integrities lessons in industry that the people may become self-supporting—one indispensable to the

other-are necessarily the pioneers of Indian

civilization.

THE MODOCS.

The visit by a member of the Board to the present location of that portion of the Modoc Indians who, as prisoners of war, were in the latter portion of 1873 removed to the Indian Territory, confirms the general impression of the good conduct of these Indians in their present relations. The transfer of the remainder of the tribe from the Pacific coast to the same locality, as recommended, would, it is believed, in its sanutary results, amply justify the small appropriation required for that purpose.

purpose.

DISCONTINUANCE OF RESERVATIONS.

Attention is called to the special report of two members of the Board relative to the condition of the indian service in the extreme Northwest, in the vicinity of Fuget Sound and on the Pacific coast. The rapid diminution in numbers of all the tribes in this section justifies a comparative reduction in the expense incurred for their care and support. Some of the once powerful tribes, as, for example, the Chinook, are without a single representative, while in other instances the remnabits of ten or twelve tribes, numbering but a few hundred in the aggregate, are confederated at a single agency. The Commissioners state that a large portion of the Indians are not living upon reservations or congregated through this section of country as laborers. They represent that those now residing on the twelve reservations set apart for their use would be better cared for it consolidated upon three, especially if the proceeds of the sale of the nine reservations proposed to be vacated were invested for their benefit.

The plan recommended involves dispensing with the machinery of two of the present agencies, and

servations proposed to be vacated were invested for heir benefit.

The plan recommended involves dispensing with the machinery of two of the present agencies, and contemplates the discontinuance of the others at an early period, in the belief that neither the interests of the Indians nor those of their white neighbors will require the further intervention of the government.

The Commissioners also suggest improvements in the conduct of these agencies relative to compulsory education, labor and the selection and conduct of employés, which, in the judgment of the Board, would add materially to the efficiency of the service if made applicable to all other agencies.

TIMBERED LANDS.

the Board, would add materially to the efficiency of the service if made applicable to all other agencies.

TIMERRED LANDS.

The construction of law given by the late decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of George Cook (The United States in the case of George Cook (The United States vs. George Cook, No. 161, October Term, 1873), denies to Indians occupying reservations containing what are termed timbered lands the right to dispose of timber standing on such reservations, or to cut and sell logs from the same, unless the cutting shall be an incident to the clearing of the lands for the purpose of cultivation and improvement. In portions of Wisconsin, Minnesotas, Washington Territory and elsewhere, the reservations set apart for Indian occupation consist excussively, or for the most part, of tumbered lands; the only profitable occupation in which the Indians so located can engage is that of cutting and disposing of the timber, and the only marketable commodity within their reach is the timber standing upon their reservations. In some instances, recent fires have swept through the timber so located, killing the trees; but from which valuable lumber may be obtained if disposed of before its quality is impaired by decay. Unless permission is given for the cutting and sale of such timber without delay it will cease to be valuable for any purpose. The importance of protecting the timbered lands of the United States from unnecessary depredation and waste is fully recognized; but it is believed that in special instances, when, in the judgment of the President or of the Secretary of the Interior, necessary or the subsistence of the Indians, or to create a lund for educations for other beneficial purposes, discretions, under such restrictions as will prevent unnecessary waste.

Alaska.

Attention ass been invited in reports of the

cutting and disposing of the timber upon reservations, under such restrictions as will prevent unnecessary waste.

ALASKA.

Attention has been invited in reports of the
Board of Commissioners, heretolore made, to the
condition of the inhabitants of Alaska. It has not
been considered wise, for various reasons, to extend the jurisdiction of the indian Department of
the government over these people, and, while no
juritiar recommendation in that direction is
offered, it is suggested as very important that
provision should now be made for obtaining authentic information of the condition and wants of
the bands and races occupying the interior, of
which too little is known to determine whether
any duty devolves upon the government in regard
to them or not.

THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

The condition and wants of the civilized Indians
occupying the eastern portion of the Indian Territory has for a considerable period been a source of
much solicitude. The treaties made with the
Cherokee, Greek. Choctaw, Chickasaw and Saminoie nations on the event of teel removal west of
the Mississppi and subsequently contemplate the
establishment of governments by these nations
without interference, except as specified, by the
government. The treaties or any State
government in the provisions they make for local government and the reastrictions imposed. The experiment of independent local governments on the
part of these indians has been tried for sufficient
length of time to test its practicability, and has
not proved satisfactory in its results.

Very considerable progress in education and in
the various pursuits of inoustry has been made,
but the governments established have not been
able to afford proper protestion to person and
then the results of the constription and in
the various pursuits of inoustry has been made,
but the governments established have not been
able to afford proper protestion to person and
then intervention of some power with sufficient
entertiory was made within a comparatively
suort period, on the p

movement for the organization of a general government has occurred.

Measures intended to afford a remedy for this unfortunate condition of affairs have from time to time been brought forward in Congress, but they have not received the assent of the accredited delegations from these nations who have visited Washington, and have not resulted in legislation. The Board of Commissioners, at its meeting in November of the past year, directed a delegation of its members to visit the Indian Territory for the purpose of consultation with leading men of the more civilized Indian nations "touching the condition of the Territory, and such legislation in behalf thereof as might be deemed necessary to give better security to per-

"touching the condition of the Territory, and such legislation in behalf thereof as might be deemed necessary to give netter security to person and property." They were met at Muscogee on the 11th of December oy a large and influential delegation from the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws and Seminoics. The consultation, which asked two days, was of a most friendly nature. After a full discussion, however, the delegation present adhered to the previous action of their respective national councis, declaims to take the initiative or participate in any movement leading to a change in their national condition of relations with the United States.

The Commissioners, after a full consideration of the subject, recommend that a Territorial government, not inconsistent with existing treaties, be established by the United States, the Government, not inconsistent with existing treaties, be established by the United States, the Government and the legislative body to be elected by the people of the Territory. They also recommend the establishment of United States, courts within said Territory, and the recognition of the right of the people to be represented in Congress by a belegate to be elected by them.

It is believed that the measures recommended in accordance with the spirit of treaty obligations entered into with the United States, are essential to the welfare of these people. They offer the assistance of the general government in the preservation of order and the establishment of more periest municipal regulations, while the right of self-government is practically maintained. The unsettled condition of affairs in consequence of movements made in Congress and elsewhere, tooking to the organization of a Territorial government and a change in the relations of the United States to those Indians, is very detrimental to any effort on their part for the improvement of the reproduction, and it is hoped that the legislation of the treaty on their part for the improvement of their condition, and it is hoped that the legislation of the present ses-sion of Congress will not be completed without

oped that the legislation of the present set Congress will not be completed without definite action on this subject.

CLINION B. FISK, St. Louis, Chairman.

H. H. SIBLEY, St. Paol, Minn.

E. A. HAYF, New YORK.

N. J. TURNEY, Circleville, Ohio.

JOHN D. LANG, Vassalborough, Me.

E. R. ROBERTS, Sandy Springs, Md.

CHAS, G. HAMMOND, Chicago, Rt.

WILLIAM STICKNEY, Washington.

F. H. SMITH, Washington, Secretary.

# PARLOR PYTHONESSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-

I have read with horror an editorial in the HERALD of the 13th inst. concerning Pythonesses. I now know that my wile and dear mother-in-law are Pythonesses, and that I have gone to the Devil (it must be the ie low with the big D) without being aware of the fact. When you write any more such blood-colliers I wish you would remember the number of husbands and sons-in-law who are situated as I am, and put in some saving final clause, modulying suggestant or editying moral, which will start the standard blood and revive the territed spirit. Luckily for me my wile tore her best dress with a nan, which an unfinlened job of mine presented to her while I was timising of what I had read, and she started the action of my heart by some persons we which she applied to me. My mother-in-law kept the blood moving by gentle converse of a persons and private character. Since that period I have been talmking the matter over seriously and I have come to the solution of the action of the solution of the association. Let those dear young men matter God into the constitution of the thirted States and employ A. Johnson to keep him there the Methodist section of the association would have to be excused until after it has got Gen. Grant started on his third term), and then can upon fen. Grant to suppress this new banditt by the Louisiana method. Increase only about eleven or fitteen minions of deluced Spiritualists in the United States and it would be an easy matter for Gen Grant to convert them to Methodism or some other chondox faith by means of his eminent example and his mintary spostles Sheridan, De Trobrand, &c. Yours.

ELIPHALET SASSEFRAS, M. D. more such blood-chillers I wish you would remem-

BROOKLYN FLATS.

NEW YORK CITY.

Carl Meinhardt, a German pedier, sixty years of age, died in Bellevue Hospital a day or two since from the effects of injuries received to the elbow in September last by a fall. Coroner Croker was notified to hold an inquest.

'Longshoremen's Union No. 2 has not, as has been reported by the stevedores, resolved to accept the reduction of daily wages against which they have been standing out. They still demand forty cents per hour for their labor.

A charity ball in aid of the Northeastern Dispensary will be given at the Lexington Avenue.

Opera House on Tuesday evening, the 19th inst. It is hoped that a large attendance will be gathered in the opera house, as the objects of the entertainments are most worthy.

A grand vocal and instrumental concert, followed by a bail, was given by Mr. Dupin, assisted by L'Orpuson Français, of which he is director, at the Germania Hall, howery, last evening. The musical portion of the entertainment passed off with great &cial, and altogether the affair was a decided success.

Coroner Woltman was called to hold an inquest at the Twentieth precinct station house. West Thirty-seventh street, upon the body of John Viering, a German, aged forty years, of Seventy-eighth street and avenue A, who was killed by the failing of an extension wall which was in the course of erection at No. 544 West Thirty-third

Coroner Croker was yesterday called to the Morgue to hold an inquest upon the body of Solomon Oppenheimer, flity-seven years of age, born in Germany, who committed suicide on the 14th inst., at his late residence, No. 12i Inird street, by swallowing a dose of Paris green. It is said that deceased had been despondent for some time past, owing to business and other troubles and poor health.

### LONG ISLAND.

The revolving light at Montank is reported to

be in some way out of order, so that it oscasionally fails to revolve.

Mr. Thomas Lister has been elected Chief Engineer of the Pire Department of Sag Harbor, and Mr. N. W. Silveira assistant. The British brig Charlotte, ashore ten miles

east of Fire Island Inlet, has not yet been got off by the Coast Wrecking Company.

A convention of the temperance people of Queens county will be held in the Methodist Episcopal lecture room at Hempstead on Wednesday next.

The Great South Bay is now frozen over, so that

iceboats make the trip across to the beach, and ice boats are also in use on Northport harbor. Two young daughters of Mr. Hendler, of Spring-deld, town of Jamuica, fell through the ice on a pond when returning from school on Wednesday evening, and narrowly escaped drowning. Their cries were heard by a passer by, and they were res-cued in an almost exhausted condition.

A young couple were clandestinely married at Rockaway a lew days ago. The groom was a youth or eighteen and the bride a girl of fiteen. The parents of both objected to so early a venture in marrimony, but they jound a minister who had no objections.

earth near Lawrence street, Plushing, on Friday, they discovered a human skeleton, with what appeared to be the remains of a coffin. The skull was nearly period, but the other bones were much decayed. How the skeleton came there is a matter of conjecture.

The official report of the Board of Supervisors of

meeting in April bills were audited to the amoun meeting in April bils were audited to the amount of \$675 70; at a meeting in June, \$329 60, and at the annual meeting in October, \$10,737 37—a total for the year of \$11,742 75. The Board was in session ten days and six evenings, and the ten Supervisors were paid for mileage, per diem, and disbursements, \$1,422 78.

Mr. John Harold, of Hempstead, late Secretary

of the Queens County Agricultural Society, recently lost a pocketbook in New York containing about \$75 in money and checks to the amount of about \$300. A day or two ago he received informaabout \$300. A day or two ago he received information that the pocketbook had been found, and was
at No. 10 Waiker street, and upon application it
was nanded to Mr. Harold, minus the money and
checks, by the porter employed there, who had
found it in Beach street. There were, however,
other valuable papers in it, and Mr. Harold paid
the porter a reward for finding it. On Satu day
the checks were returned to Mr. Harold at Hempstead in an envelope. When in New York he was
not in Beach street, and he supposes that some
one who had found it elsewhere dropped it there
after riding it of its contents. The return of the
checks is accounted for by the fact that payment
was stopped.

## STATEN ISLAND.

The trustees of School District No. 5, of Southfield, have procured a comfortable schoolhouse, and the school is now in a flour-sning condition. A meeting of the Irish Legion is called for Saturday evening next at Klein's National Hall, Stapleton, to make arrangements for the annual parade on St. Patrick's Day.

Mr. John A. Thorpe, an actor enraged in one of the New York theatres, visited Staten Island on Sunday to see a young lady, and when on his re-turn nome was assaulted by two young ruffians,

The Equor dealers of Edgewater will hold a meet-

brood, and her head was half turned before she THE HEALTH OF THE PORT.

STARVING IN THE STREETS. Of all the sorrowful incidents at St. John's Guild, however, those which excite the most sym, pathy concern the families that have been turned into the streets and have no place in which to warm themselves and no money to buy food. Scores of these families apply daily and the trial to the feelings of those present when their stories are told is terrible. Yonder in the corner stands a weak, puny man, with a sort of religious air, who

are told is terrible. Yonder in the corner stands a weak, puny man, with a sort of religious air, who is listening to the half-sobbed whispers of his wife. She, in a gray mixed shawl and neat defaine dress, is holding the hands of her two children in her own, and, though her head is bowed down, there is a tear glistening on her red cheek. They have been walking in the street without going near a fire or eating a morsel of food since half an hour before daylight this morning. No wonder they are cold or that the man's eyes wander about in a half-strightened, half-desperate sort of way, and that the woman cries.

THINKE FAMILIES WITHOUT SHELTER.

Near the stove are gathered three families. The first consists of a man, his whe and two children. The first of the hitle once is fitteen months old and the second is a nursling. The husband seems hardly more than a boy in years, while the wife has quire the look of a matron. The cheeks of all are pale and sunken, and they seem to fairly clutch at the neat from the stove with their thin, bony fingers. The man was employed during the past summer and fall by a Mr. King, of Staten Island, as a plasterer and slater. Stating is a dult trade in winter, and the man, who was never a skilled workman, but only "willing and handy," was discharged. Later he found employment in Wash ington Market, but was soon turned away there because of the dult innes. When he owed two months' rent his landlord ordered him to leave his rooms, and to save the landlord the cost of ejection he took his wife by the hand and with the children went out into the street. Late at night they found lodgings at No. 252 Mott street, and by various shirts managed to get together filty cents each night for a week, so as to keep

THIS LAST SHELTER

gether fifty cents each night for a week, so as to keep

THIS LAST SHELTER

over their heads. Wednesday they were so sore pressed they had to last all day, and when they came to the Guild—brought in by some gentleman who chanced to meet them—they had not tasted food for forty-eight hours. A little distance away, a woman—a widow—sat with her two children. Their clothing was of the scantiest kind. They had been turned into the streets two days before. Near those hast were a woman and her one child. The only covering of each was a thin dress and a slimsy skirt. A man upon whom the hand of death had already fallen sat in a chair surrounded by his wile and three children. He was a photographer and or late had not earned a sum equal to helf his current rent. They had not a morsel of food in the house. Feeling that he must soon leave them, he had dragged his way to the Guild to ask pity for his family and some little medical attendance for himself.

The number of those lamilies who applied for relief on Saturday being utterly houseless and wandering up and down the streets was sixty. All New York, these butter winter nights, should think of these poor homeless creatures who are dragging their tired limbs about in the darkness and suffering from want of fire and want of food.

### SUNDAY AT THE PARK.

The skating fraternity of the metropolis had a pleasant day's enjoyment of their favorite pastime yesterday. They commenced early, and happy faces surged through every entrance to the Park until almost nightfall, and it seemed as though they could not stop anywhere short of "the Lake." They scampered up every path to that frozen sheet of water, and many "out across lots," fear-ful that they would lose too much time by being dignified and "taking things easy." All were provided with skates. Some dangled them from their shoulders, while those who did not wish to their shoulders, while those who did not wish to make a dash or display had them carefully enwrapped in bags and carried them under their arms. It would be difficult to tell where this grand column of pleasure seekers came from all the city and the suburban towns contributed to make up the throng. From homes of comfort and homes of poverty they came, out once together all joined alike in the sport and apparently never thinking of social differences, made up a ceaseless panorama, swift dying and varied as a kaleidoscopic glimpse. The assemblage was one of much freedom, but it was not rude or mischievous. There can be a vast deal of intinacy without objectionable familiarity on a well ordered skating pond. Such may be observed every day at the Park, and it would be difficult to find another recreative crowd where such thorough and legitimate enjoyment is thus afforded.

thorough and legislate to the desired. The afforded.

The day was all that could be desired. The purity of the atmosphere was inspiring. It invigorated and bid defiance to the blues, An ill-tempered man would have been out of the bonds yesterday. Nothing vigorated and bld defiance to the bues. An place on the ponds yesterday. Nothing but good humor and kindly feeling prevailed. Indeed, much of the philosophy of skating is the simple breathing of the pure air; as to that more than anything else is the pleasure due which the sport imparts. There was no diminuition in the throng all the day iong. Both the larger and smaller ponds were alive until night, and for an hour or two belore subset the picture was one of almost painful rush, tear, which and bustle. The time seemed too short. The officers who admonished the assemblage to go home when evening approached, as is the rule on the Saobath, were not regarded as particularly pleasant men by some or the juniors; but not a world was said that could be regarded as impolite, and so, with skates again over their shoulders and in the proper receptacles, the throng let the Park, filing the air with the jeal of merry voices in laughter, all pleased with a day well speut on the ice.

## ICE IN THE RIVERS.

Smarget to see a young inter, and when on his rew we have the severety and vertically all the policy of the 100 to DIFFICULTIES AND DANGERS OF FERRY TRAVEL

Annual Report of Health Officer Vanderpoel for 1874.

Contagious Diseases-How and Where They Originate and the Way to Prevent Them.

HEALTH OFFICER'S DEPARTMENT, QUARANTINE, STATEN ISLAND, Jan. 1, 1875. |
Hon. WILLIAM L. B. STRARS, President of the Commis-

Hon. WILLIA L. R. STRARR, President of the Commissioners of Quarantine:

In presenting my third annual report it gives me pleasure to state that less sickness of a contagious or transmissible character has entered the port than during any season for several years past. Sixty-eight cases of sickness have been removed from vessels.

CONTAGIOUS DISHARR.

There have been II cases of smallpox, exposing 5,225 persons, as compared with 630 cases, exposing 70,306, in 1872, and 37 cases, exposing 14,796 in 1873.

Of ship fever five cases, as compared with six cases in

Of ship fever five cases, as compared with six cases in 1872 and seventeen cases in 1873.

1872 and seventeen cases in 1873.

Of yellow fever twelve cases, as compared with forty-two cases in 1872 and sixty-two cases in 1873. No cholera has entered the port in 1874.

Various causes have conduced to produce this result, and in the few words which will be devoted to this report I shall be content to notice some of the principal. For a long exposition of my views on the principal. For a long exposition of my views on the principles and practice which govern the workings of the department reference is made to the two preceding reports and to papers published in the transactions of the Medical Society of the State for 1874.

First—One chief cause for the diminished amount of stokness is the great failing off in the number of emigrants who have arrived, not reaching half the number of 1873.

of 1873.

Second—The results of sanitary supervision at this port is not limited in its effects to the mere removal of sickness actually present on vessels, but the enforcement of hygienic conditions in all that pertains to the health and comfort of the passengers has not only its effect upon their welfare while on the passage, but the companies engaged in the business flud that it increate their peculiary advantage by institution a southern

hygienic conditions in all that pertains to the health and comfort of the passengers has not only its effect upon their welfare while on the passage, but the companies engaged in the business find that it increated their pecuniary advantage by instituting a sanitary inspection of all emigrants before the vessel leaves her Euroscan port. Those actually side or possibly threated their pertaining of the provided coming on board and exposing others.

It has seemed to me that the misapprehension upon the scope of the duties pertaining to this position is so great with the community that I shall be pardoned in devoting a few moments to their consideration.

The word in its literal sense conveys no idea either of their scope or aim, while it expresses an erroneous and talse impression of the duration of detention which vessels under any circumstances are compelled to undergo.

Enlightened the state of the compelled to undergo, because the compelled to the comp

Such, however, should not be their relation to the disease, nor should santary authorities on this side of the Atlantic accept such action as the full performance of duty on the part of these engaged in transporting

was very little more than calking its durability will be far greater.

The State Burying Ground and adjacent property at beguin's Point, which from long neglect was dilapidated, overum with briers and destitute of iencea, has been for the first time surveyed and a map deposited in the office of the secretary of the operty (nearly fitty than the contract of the property (nearly fitty than the contract of the property (nearly fitty than the state of the property (nearly fitty than the property (nearly fitty fitt

pall whenever accident or wear and sary.

In closing, I beg leave to tender to yourself and your associates in the commission my sincers thanks for the uniform couriesy and assistance you have extended to me in the performance of my duties. I both my previous reports for the integrity and positive, in the performance of their respective trusts, of Jr. Mosher, as executive officer, and the deputies, Dr. Thompson and Macartney.

S. Oakley VANDERPOEL.

Heaith Officer of the port of New York.

THE DETECTIVE POLICE.

WHAT THE MAYOR THINKS OF THE POLICE DE

PARTMENT. The disorder that has so long reigned in the

Detective Bureau of the Police Department reached its height yesterday, when the officers were made aware of the intention of the Commissioners to sacrifice the mass of them for the benefit of a few. Complaints were loud and bitter, and some declared if anything of that sort were done the public would be treated to a more searching insight into the mysteries of the service than they have yet been given. That is scarcely necessary, for the whole subject long ago became nauseating to the people's palate. Good may come of it, however, and it is time some little benefit to the community should accrue. At the last session of the Board of Police, Commissioner Voorbis introduced a resolution, which was passed, forbidding all persons not connected with the detective office from lounging there. It had developed into a custom for persons of all classes to make the rooms in which detective business was transacted a resting placeand it was ascertained that some of those persons carried information obtained in the bureau to parties outside who were affected by it. While this sort of thing was going on it was difficult for detectives who were desirous of doing their duty to perform it satisfactorily or properly, for thieves and receivers had no difficulty in

SENDING SPIES
among the detectives, if they did not constantly
keep them there. The door leading into the detective office is now closed against all outsiders except those who have business in the bureau and who obtain a pass from Superintendent Walling, and the next move of the Commissioners should be to so change the plan of the office that the Su perintendent and the detectives may have constant communication for the transaction of business without lookers on being able to be cognizant of their movements. Then the new force should be put in, and the bright era of affairs inaugurated. The bugbear of the present Board has been the detective office.

They have all along known that something was necessary to the discipline and working there, but or were afraid to introduce. At one time they made a great show of hurrying up to remodel and improve the place, but all the discussion on the subject resulted in throwing the entire responsibility on the shoulders of the Superintendent, and he allowed it to rest upon him. The Board asked him for a plan upon which they could reconstruct the office, but up to the present, so far as is known, he has offered none. It was a delicate the office, but up to the present, so far as is known, he has offered none. It was a delicate task for Superintendent Walling, and a difficult one, loaded down as he was with important business the public were urging him to get through with, because the Captain of the office and he are iriends of long standing, and the Superintendent would naturally be likely to look leneably on compaints that disturbed the people's confidence. Rumors of irregularities it is, of course, easy to sart, and evir report travels quicker and farther than good; but it was the duty of Superintendent Walling, hearing those reports and what led to them, to put Captain Irving, as well as his officers, in a position where, it innocent, they could give satisfactory refutation of them through proper investigation. The public are never unjust, and even at this late date, all those defectives whose fair fame has been in any way touched, have plenty of opportunity to make known to the public that has for so long paid them whether they have been unjustly censured or not. So far as THE BOARD OF POLICE is concerned nothing remains for them but to get rid of the entire system at present in vogue and all connected with it. Nothing less will give the public any confidence either in them or the new men they may make detectives. It would not, of course, do to put the present men off the lord without giving them a proper hearing; but that hearing should be a public one—thoroughly complete and decisive one way or the other. If the detectives are an injured set of men they should be protected, and if they are not they ought to

hearing should be a public one—thoroughly complete and decisive one way or the other. If the detectives are an injured set of men they should be protected, and if they are not they ought to be sent about their business. Commissioner Voorhis has taken the matter in hand. At the outset Mr. Matsell was with him. Between them they must by this time have evidence to establish something; that testimony ought to be given to the community, and the Commissioners will be able to show that what action they have taken has been honest, unbiassed and above board. Commissioner Duryce, by taking the people's side in the matter and declaring for a proper purgation of the detective office, may be able to tide over May in office and gather around him some affection for his services, and the same happy results may be brought about in the case of Commissioner Dispecker. His time runs on to another May, a year distant, but that it should not be out shorter than even the coming May, he had better take the opportunity now offered to repay his indebtedness to the public. In his Message Mayor Wicknam says, "There are many radica and wholesome changes in the department which can yet be made before the force will exhibit the discipline and general efficiency which the public is entitled to exact from it." When he wrote that passage the Mayor must certainly have had his eye on the detective office. Nothing more unwholesome exists in the department, and that it shall remain there and not travel up into the Board the Commissioner can settle.

A meeting of the Board is to be held to-day, a which the matter will be discussed, and it is likely that decisive action will be taken on Tuesday.

A meeting of the Board is to be held to-day, as which the matter will be discussed, and it is likely that decisive action will be taken on Tuesday, President Matsell was as the Central Office yesterday, as well as Superintendent Walling and Captain Irving. There being no important business to transact, they left the building in the afternoon. Inspector Speight remained in charge during the day.

## THE IMPRISONED SMUGGLERS.

Among the convicted smugglers in Ludlow Street Jail is Customs Inspector Harris, who was for a long time stationed on the wharf of the Clyde line of Havana steamers, and is reported to have connived at the smuggling of cigars to s very large extent. His is the first case, it is re ported, on record of a Custom House officer of this port being in juil for smuggling. Several other

port being in jail for smuggling. Several other Custom House inspectors are reported to be quaking in their boots with reference to exposures about "nouse money," which are said to be forthcoming.

Another samggler in the same jail is a man named George Drew, formerly connected with the National Steamship line, and who was arrested for smuggling about 250 gold and sliver watches ashore, the subsequently ran away, but was recaptured. He will probably be soon removed to Crow Hill Penitentiary.

Michael Gallagher is also in jail, sentenced the six months' imprisonment, for alleged complicity in smuggling 150 cigars from off the steamer Crescent City.

Mic. Jouvin, the French smuggler, remains con-Mile. Jouvin, the French smuggler, remains con-fined to her bed and in a very weak condition.

## CONSCRIPTION IN ALSACE.

The following communication, from a private source, dated at Hageman, Alsace, describes the scene which was witnessed at that place during the first military muster of the young men, inhabi tants of the district, who were liable to the service, into the ranks of Emperor William's army The writer, dating on the 10th of December, 1874

To-day is a gloomy day for the inhabitants of this place, as before their houses they see passing groups of young Alsacians who are mustered into the Prussian military service. Heart rending, heart breaking, it is, indeed, to hear the farewell songs of these brave young men, who cry out as they tramp along, "We will never fight for the Prussians." Some one may say, "Why did not there young men join the Frenca service?" The main reason is because many, in fact most of them, had an aged mother or rather to support, and if they had taken the French oath they could not have remained two years longer at home. So to have the good of one they had to make the sacrifice of the other. Not a woman or man, indeed, who saw the young fellows pass could keep from shed-ling tears.